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SIPDIS  
TELEGRAM

June 02, 2003

To: No Action Addressee  
Action: Unknown  
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 2603 - PRIORITY)  
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, PGOV, KCRM, KTIA  
Captions: None  
Subject: AMBASSADOR RAISES MLAT AND TIP WITH MINISTER OF JUSTICE  
AL-DHAHERI  
Ref: None

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UNCLAS ABU DHABI 02603

SIPDIS  
CXABU:  
ACTION: POL  
INFO: DCM P/M RSO ECON AMB

DISSEMINATION: POL  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB:MMWAHBA  
DRAFTED: POL:STWILLIAMS  
CLEARED: A/DCM:TEWILLIAMS; POL:MMENARD

VZCZCADI256  
PP RUEHC RUEHZM RUEAWJA  
DE RUEHAD #2603 1531105  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 021105Z JUN 03  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0194  
INFO RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE  
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 002603

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP, L/LEI, G/TIP, NEA/RA, DRL, PRM

DOJ FOR OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [KCRM](#) [KWMN](#) [KTIA](#) [PGOV](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR RAISES MLAT AND TIP WITH  
MINISTER OF JUSTICE AL-DHAHERI

¶1. MLAT: The Ambassador, accompanied by Polchief and POL FSN, met 5/31 with UAE Minister of Justice, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Muhammad Nakhira Al-Dhaheri. The Ambassador engaged Al-Dhaheri on the draft Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, noting that, following the exchange of proposed changes, the U.S. was prepared to begin negotiations in the near future. The Ambassador proposed a discussion of preliminary matters via video teleconference. Al-Dhaheri agreed on the need to proceed, but asked that the VTC incorporate a discussion of longstanding and unmet UAE requests to the USG

related to judicial matters. The Ambassador demurred that such a discussion should occur in a separate forum. (Note: We will meet with Ministry of Justice officials to ascertain the nature of these concerns.)

12. EXTRADITION TREATY: The Minister expressed the UAEG's desire to move forward with negotiations on a draft extradition treaty concurrent with MLAT negotiations. The Ambassador, noting the minor changes to the MLAT suggested by both sides, hoped that we could conclude that agreement and then open discussions on an extradition treaty. The Minister took the Ambassador's point on board.

13. TIP: The Ambassador asked the Minister for an update on the status of the draft law criminalizing the use of underage camel jockeys. Al-Dhaheeri briefed that the legislation is with the Supreme Council of Rulers pending the signature of the rulers of all seven emirates. Once the other six emirate rulers have signed, the legislation will be sent to UAE President and Abu Dhabi Ruler Zayid bin Sultan Al-Nahyan's office for his signature. With Zayid's signature, the legislation becomes law. Al-Dhaheeri could not predict how long the process would take, but did not expect it to be too drawn out.

WAHBA